

Chapter 5

Repair Parts Supply Operations

Chapter 5 describes supply support operations, including supply support activity (SSA) organization, operating procedures, and supply sources. Supply support is important to maintenance operations. Maintenance personnel need repair parts, tools, test equipment, cleaning materials, and other supplies to do their job. In order to get the right supplies in the right quantity to the right place at the right time, maintenance personnel need to understand how the system works. DS maintenance units manage three types of supply operations:

- Unit supply—obtains, accounts for, stores, and replenishes supplies and TOE equipment required for the unit's internal operations.
- Shop supply—obtains and provides repair parts and maintenance materials required for the unit's DS-level maintenance mission.
- Class IX supply support—performs all functions related to acquisition, storage, accounting, and distribution of repair parts, maintenance supplies, and RX items in support of unit-level maintenance activities and the unit's DS-level maintenance mission.

Supply policy below the wholesale level is described in AR 710-2. AR 710-2 also implements policy for DS and GS supply support activities and describes supply support operations that apply to divisional and nondivisional DS maintenance units.

SECTION I – SUPPLY SUPPORT OPERATIONS

5-1. Section I discusses repair parts supply support operations at the strategic, operational, and tactical levels. Class IX items (repair parts) consist of any part, subassembly, assembly, or component required for installation in the maintenance of an end-item, subassembly, or component. They support the maintenance and repair functions performed throughout the Army on all materiel except medical materiel. They range from small items of common hardware to large, complex line-replaceable units.

OPERATING CONCEPT

5-2. The degree of repair parts management required is proportional to the contribution they make to operational readiness of the end-items they support. The type and quantity of stocked items directly relate to readiness requirements.

STRATEGIC LEVEL

5-3. Management of repair parts at the strategic level normally depends on the item's general classification rather than its end-item use. Therefore, requisitions in support of a unit's maintenance mission may go to more than one NICP or commodity command. When the end-item is a major system, a program manager ensures that the CSS for that end-item is efficient. In this way, units experiencing problems have a single point of contact to handle their concerns. At this level, supply requirements may drive the NICP manager to use depot-level maintenance to repair unserviceable assets.

OPERATIONAL LEVEL

5-4. The operational level of supply focuses on providing repair parts and a level of stockage for items not sent to the theater by air lines of communication (ALOC). Sustainment maintenance organizations ease the supply requirements by providing serviceable assets and components. Theater-generated assets reduce the requirement to provide support from the strategic level of supply. GS maintenance units' shop stocks support authorized maintenance tasks. They requisition replenishment stocks through their supporting MMCs and do not maintain ASLs.

TACTICAL LEVEL

5-5. Repair parts for the tactical level support both unit- and DS-level maintenance missions. Organizations can stock a limited number of items on the PLL to support their unit-level maintenance mission. Normally, the number of lines is restricted to about 150; however, they should be demand-supported or combat-essential. The commander has some latitude to accommodate expected requirements and other justifiable reasons. Mobility of PLL items is another consideration. The PLL should be 100 percent mobile on organic transportation assets.

5-6. DS maintenance units maintain an ASL based on supported unit anticipated requirements. Maintenance units maintain different quantities of ASL depending on the mission, organizations supported, and organic mobility capability of the organization. GS- and DS-level missile system maintenance units maintain the theater ASL for all supported missile systems. They provide missile parts supply support for the theater.

SUPPLY SYSTEM

5-7. The supply system includes two levels—wholesale and retail. Wholesale supplies are managed at the strategic management level; retail supplies, at the operational and tactical level.

WHOLESALE LEVEL

5-8. The wholesale level includes NICPs, supply depots, arsenals, central wholesale data banks, plants, factories associated with commodity command activities, and special Army activities controlled by USAMC. The wholesale supply system is concerned with procuring supplies from the manufacturer and bringing them into the Army inventory.

RETAIL LEVEL

5-9. The retail level includes all portions of the supply system not classed as wholesale. It is subdivided into user, DS, and GS levels:

- Users are combat, combat support, and combat service support units that stock supplies to support their own operations. These stocks are termed *PLLs* for Class IX and *basic or operational loads* for other classes. Users are also referred to as *customers*.
- DS supply and maintenance units stock supplies for issue to customer units. Stocks at the DS level are called *ASLs*. Each DSU has a list of customer units to which it provides support. Requisition objective and retention levels are set by the DMMC for divisional units or the CMMC/TAACOM MMC for nondivisional units. Stock control and accounting is performed by DSUs.
- GS supply units provide backup supply support to DS supply and maintenance units and act as transshipment points. Stocks at this level are also called *ASLs*. General support supply units are not located in the division; they are found in the COSCOM, TAACOM, and ASCC. GSUs at COSCOM MMC, TAACOM MMC, or ASCC MMC perform their stock control and accounting.

SUPPLY-RELATED ACTIVITIES

5-10. Supply-related activities such as salvage collection points support the retail supply system through their reclamation actions. This is done by removing serviceable or economically repairable components, assemblies, and repair parts from end-items or large components that have been classified as uneconomically repairable.

NOTE

Maintenance and supply must work together to provide, keep, and maintain the authorized amount of equipment in the using unit. If the repair cost exceeds established expenditure limits, the item is turned in, unless approval to retain it is obtained from the appropriate commodity command.

SUPPLY SUPPORT ACTIVITY ORGANIZATION

BATTALION HEADQUARTERS

5-11. Support operations offices have a supply manager and a repair parts manager, who operate under supervision of the support operations officer. These personnel supervise supply support operations of subordinate units, make recommendations relating to repair parts supply policies and procedures, establish controls to fulfill the Class IX mission, and assist other staff officers and units attached to the battalion with supply-related issues. Personnel in this section work closely with the accountable officer in the maintenance company.

MAINTENANCE COMPANY SUPPLY SUPPORT ACTIVITY

5-12. The Class IX SSA mission is performed by a supply platoon composed of a platoon headquarters, a stock control and accounting section, a storage section, and an RX section. The supply platoon maintains the company's ASL and maintenance-related supplies. This ASL includes types and quantities of repair parts authorized for unit-level maintenance activities of supported units, as well as those authorized for support of the DS-level maintenance mission.

Stock Control and Accounting Section

5-13. The stock control and accounting section performs the following functions:

- Maintains stock accounting records and files.
- Receives requests for issue from supported units and from its maintenance elements.
- Edits requests for issue or turn-in.
- Screens its stock records for availability.
- Records issuing of supplies.
- Issues materiel release orders to the storage section.
- Maintains a critical items list and nonstocked items records.
- Assists in compiling RX lists.
- Requests disposition instructions and evacuates materiel as directed.
- Prepares requisitions for replenishment of stocks. (Divisional requisitions are submitted through the DMMC to the COSCOM MMC or, if in the corps or COMMZ, to the COSCOM MMC or TAACOM MMC.)

5-14. This section uses SARSS software for receipt, storage, and issue operations and automated Class IX management. Under SARSS-O (objective), this section uses SARSS-1 to communicate directly with SARSS-2 at the MMC. Under SARSS-2, the MMC assumes stock record accounting and management functions. Information on requisitions, management actions, and status is exchanged daily between SARSS-1 and SARSS-2 sites by diskette or electronic transmission.

5-15. Class IX and RX transactions are normally processed using standard requisition and turn-in documents. ULLS-G facilitates the automated request and issue process between customer and the SSA. Units exchange Class IX information daily between ULLS and SARSS-1 by diskette or electronic transmission. Similar procedures are also used to exchange daily Class IX information between the maintenance company's shop supply section, operating SAMS-1, and SARSS-1.

5-16. The SSA keeps current references on stock accounting supply procedures, including regulations, technical publications, SOP, and policy and procedural guidance and information. As necessary, it provides personnel the references needed to satisfy inspection or technical assistance requirements.

Storage Section

5-17. The storage section physically receives, stores, maintains in storage, and issues required parts and RX items. Supplies are issued in accordance with materiel release orders from the stock control and accounting section. The section is also responsible for safeguarding and storing supplies, for preparing supplies for shipment, and for maintaining proper parts locations.

Reparable Exchange Section

5-18. RX is a repair parts supply procedure by which serviceable repair parts, components, and assemblies are exchanged for unserviceable items, using standard issue and turn-in documents and procedures. Normally, items being exchanged must be reparable or recoverable; however, this procedure is also sometimes used for other types of items whose issue must be controlled. The RX section is established in an area with convenient access to supported units (within or adjacent to the supply office). Under automated procedures, SARSS-1 software accommodates RX operational procedures.

SUPPLY SUPPORT ACTIVITY PROCEDURES

5-19. DS maintenance companies carry a specified level of demand-supported, fast-moving repair parts required for the DS-level maintenance operations and supported unit requirements. Stockage requirements are continually appraised to keep stockage to the minimum required for support requirements and to avoid accumulation of excess stocks.

5-20. Supported units place demands for repair parts and maintenance supplies on the DS maintenance company designated to provide them with support. Figure 5-1 illustrates the Class IX and maintenance-related Class II requisition and supply flow (high-priority ALOC). Figure 5-2 illustrates the Class IX and maintenance-related Class II requisition and supply flow (low-priority ALOC).

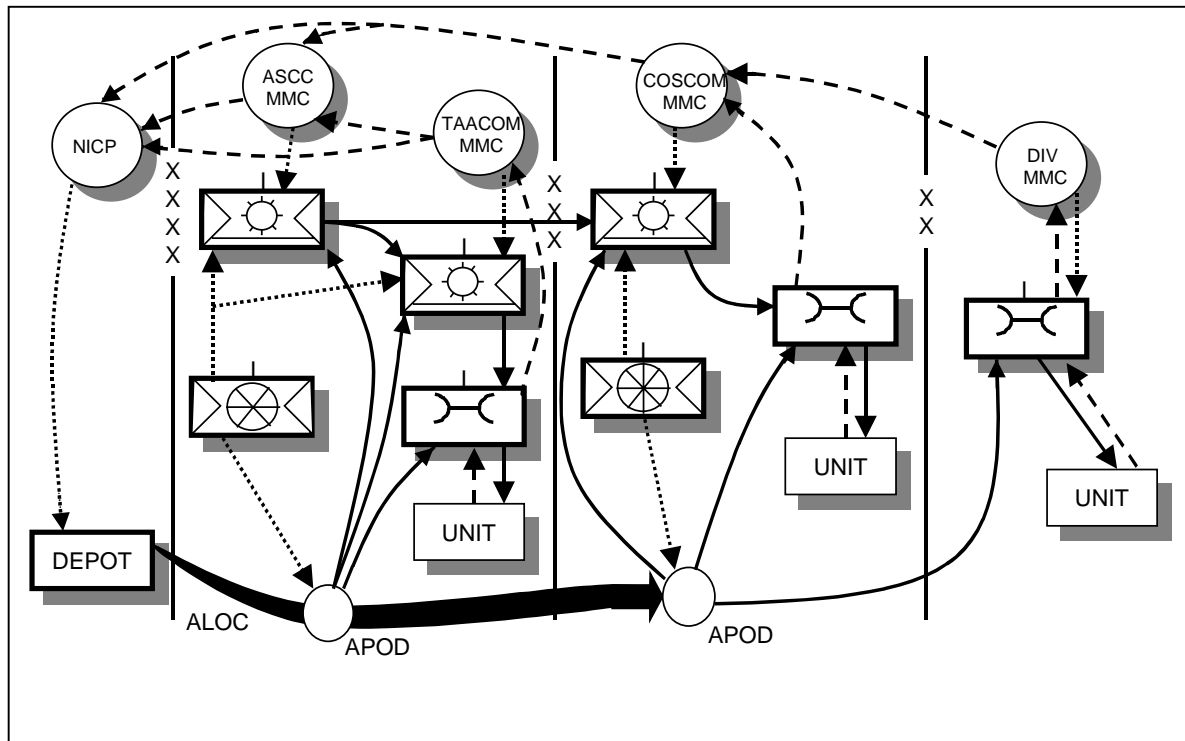


Figure 5-1. Class IX and Maintenance-Related Class II Requisition and Supply Flow (High-Priority ALOC)

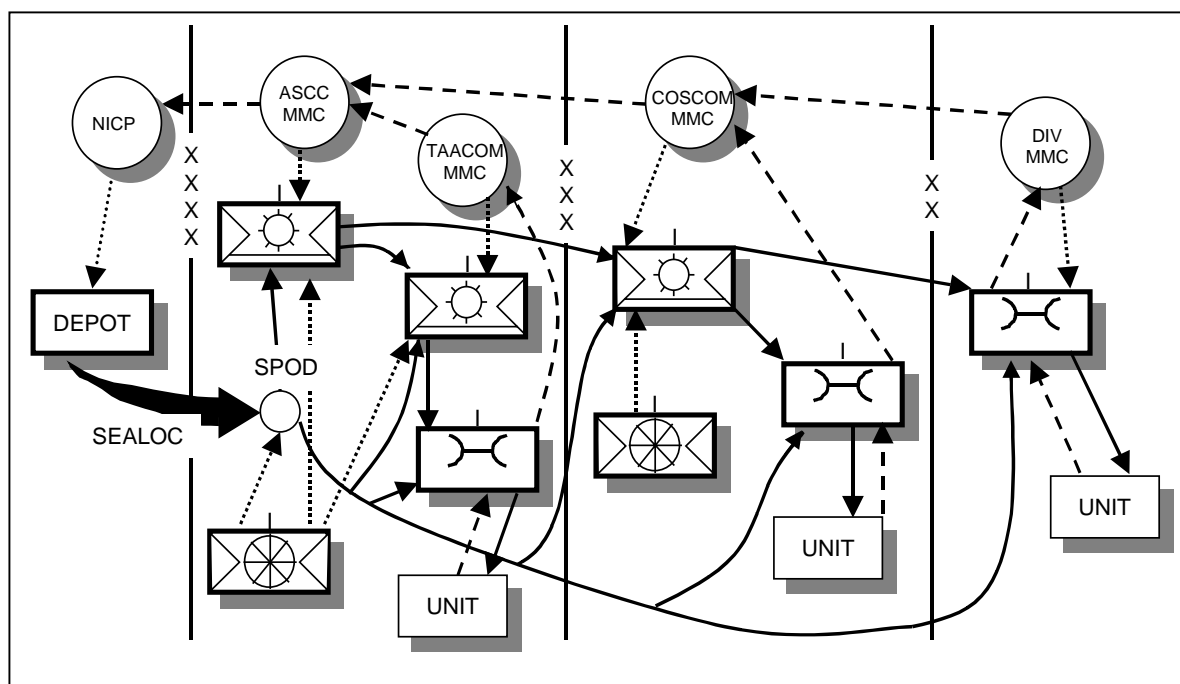


Figure 5-2. Class IX and Maintenance-Related Class II Requisition and Supply Flow (Low-Priority ALOC)

ACQUISITION PROCESS

5-21. Table 5-1 describe the repair parts supply acquisition process.

Table 5-1. SSA Repair Parts Process

Step	Action
1	Receives requests for repair parts from supported units and the company's shop supply element; issues available stocks.
2	Requisitions, through the applicable MMC, items to satisfy unfilled demands from supported units and shop supply and to replenish ASL stocks.
3	Upon receipt, stores repair parts. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px 0;">NOTE: Unit packs should not be opened for inspection or solely to verify the count.</div>
4	Passes all available information on to the stock control and accounting section without delay.
5	Performs stock control and accounting tasks, including those tasks previously listed under the stock control and accounting section. See AR 710-2 and the applicable automated system technical manual for processing, controlling, and technical editing procedures.

DISTRIBUTION

5-22. The normal method used to distribute items to supported units is supply point distribution. Supported units are advised when shipments are ready. Units dispatch transportation to pick up their supplies. Arrangements may be made for delivery by requesting transportation from supporting transportation sources. In situations where supply lines are not secure or terrain is impassable, delivery of repair parts may occur by air. Air transportation may also be used to retrograde unserviceable components for repair.

STORAGE

5-23. The storage element provides physical receipt, storage, maintenance-in-storage, and safeguarding. It maintains a locator system and issues items as directed by the stock control and accounting section. Storage personnel also package, crate, and handle items. Units should emphasize proper storage of Class IX during field operations. Unprotected repair parts, components, and assemblies can quickly deteriorate if exposed to dirt and moisture.

5-24. To ensure proper storage, a storage plan must be developed and used for all stocks. The plan must comply with policies established by the company commander, which, in turn, are based on higher headquarters policies. Space available and types, sizes, and quantities of items to be stored are the principal factors to consider when developing a storage plan.

5-25. Most repair parts and maintenance supplies are stored in vehicles organic to the maintenance unit. CONEXES may be used for storage when they are available and their use is authorized. This provides maximum protection with little or no requirement for preparation or processing for storage. Except for glass and other fragile items (windshields, sediment bowl, and so forth), which are subject to breakage in transit, all items received in original packages should be accepted unopened.

5-26. An inspection schedule should be established for stored stock. Unpackaged and unpreserved items should be inspected for rust, corrosion, and broken packs. Particular emphasis must be placed on items with an established shelf life (rubber gaskets, neoprene seals, batteries) to be sure expired-date packages are not issued. All storage practices should be in compliance with safety and environmental laws and regulations.

REPARABLE EXCHANGE

5-27. Items authorized for repair at support maintenance may be supplied through an RX activity (RXA). Supply and maintenance personnel jointly determine selection of RX items for repair. Authority to stock RX and the levels in which these items are stocked is governed by AR 710-2. Items selected are those that are reparable and that have an essentiality code of C and an air eligibility code of 1 or 3, with at least 9 recurring demands in the last 360 days. Stocked items failing to receive at least 3 recurring demands in the previous 360 days no longer qualify for stockage and will be deleted.

5-28. Procedures for customers to obtain an item from the RXA are provided in DA Pamphlet 710-2-1. Items are exchanged on a one-for-one basis using a

DA Form 2765-1 to turn in the unserviceable item and another DA Form 2765-1 to request a replacement. Placing items on the RX list serves two useful purposes:

- First, users do not have to prepare job orders and await repair. The customer simply prepares issue and turn-in documents and hand-carries the item to the RXA where a like item is issued.
- Second, only the supply activity job-orders the components to the maintenance activity for repair. This reduces paperwork and allows the maintenance unit to workload for programmed repair.*

PREScribed LOAD LIST

5-29. TOE units that perform unit-level maintenance are authorized to stock a PLL of repair parts, which helps ensure that parts are on hand when needed. A PLL consists of repair parts and other stocks. The unit PLL consists of unit-level maintenance repair parts that are demand-supported, nondemand-supported, and specified initial stockage for newly introduced equipment. Other items that can be added to the PLL include the following:

- Demand-supported items with essentiality codes other than "C."
- Initial-issue repair parts to support newly fielded equipment (Code "P") items.
- Items added with approval of the first general officer in the chain of command or his designated representative.

5-30. Each unit is responsible for maintaining PLL records, submitting timely replenishment requests, and conducting inventories. All items must be on hand or on order. PLL policy is in AR 710-2. Manual procedures are in DA Pamphlet 710-2-1. Automated procedures are in system user manuals.

AUTHORIZED STOCKAGE LIST

5-31. The ASL consists of those parts stocked in DS maintenance units for issue to user units and to support their own DS level maintenance operations. The MMC, based on priorities established by the commander, will establish the guidelines for issue, ASL design, or distribution. The MMC is the common exit point for requisitions and other supply documents for the division. ASL lines are distributed among the units based on the critical combat needs of customer units. Maintenance companies will stock repair parts that are combat-essential to customer units. Steps in the repair parts process are in Table 5-2.

Table 5-2. Repair Parts Process

Step	Action
1	Units submit repair parts requests to their maintenance company supply support activity.
2	If repair parts are on hand, they are issued. If parts are not on hand, the request is back-ordered and a requisition passed to the COSCOM or TAACOM MMC.
3	The COSCOM or TAACOM MMC prepares the MRO, back-orders the requisitioned item, and passes the requisition to a higher supply source.

Step	Action
4	When issues are made by the COSCOM or TAACOM MMC, the parts are shipped to the maintenance company with the ASL.
5	The maintenance company will report receipt of parts to its supporting MMC.
6	The maintenance company supply section places items in a storage location (for ASL replenishment) or releases them to the customer if the request was a passing action.
7	The DMMC directs the forward movement of ASL stocks held by the maintenance company whenever replenishment (of the forward maintenance companies' ASL) is needed or to satisfy critical needs of customers.

WEAPON SYSTEM REPLACEMENT

5-32. Weapon system replacement operations (WSRO) is a management tool used to supply the combat commander with fully operational major weapon systems, including both the required equipment and trained crews. Procedures for issue of weapon systems differ from those for other Class VII items. Weapon systems replacement is managed at each level of command. Weapon systems managers are generally appointed as indicated below:

- Battalion—XO.
- Brigade—XO.
- Division—assistant DMMO (DMMC).
- Corps—COSCOM MMC.

Two terms often used to describe WSRO are *ready-for-issue* and *ready-to-fight*.

READY-FOR-ISSUE WEAPON SYSTEM

5-33. A ready-for-issue weapon system is one that has been removed from its preservation status and made mechanically operable according to current equipment serviceability criteria or other appropriate standards. Additional equipment, such as fire control, machine guns, radio mounts, and radios, is installed. The vehicle has been fueled and basic issue items (BIIs) are aboard.

READY-TO-FIGHT WEAPON SYSTEM

5-34. A ready-to-fight system is one that is manned and ready-for-issue with ammunition stowed aboard. The weapon has been boresighted and verified. Transportation of weapon systems to corps normally occurs by rail. Systems are shipped to division by rail or HETs and to battalions by HETs.

LOGISTICS INTELLIGENCE FILE

5-35. The LIF is an on-line, computerized database that centralizes the collection, correlation, and retrieval of supply and transportation data on Army-sponsored requisitions placed in the wholesale logistics system.

NOTE

The database does not include Class I (subsistence), Class III (bulk petroleum), Class V (ammunition), and security assistance materiel.

5-36. The LIF unites the supply and transportation function systems through the following three basic conditions essential to logistic intelligence:

- Automation of the standard supply and transportation systems, MILSTRIP and MILSTAMP.
- Electronic transmission of requisition, status, receipt, and transportation lift notices and receipt postings.
- Automatic acquisition of essential data from the Defense Automatic Addressing System (DAAS).

5-37. The LIF provides—

- A single source of logistic intelligence.
- A single source of determining the status of a requisition placed against the wholesale system.
- A capability of diverting, reconciling, expediting, or suspending items or shipments on short notice.
- A reconstitution of shipments involved in casualties on aircraft, ships, or other conveyances.
- A way of informing requisition activity commanders of shipment delays due to labor disputes, natural disasters, or other causes.
- A way of informing requisition activities commanders of equipment and lift data.
- A mass cancellation service in coordination with other commands and activities.
- Special analysis and LIF products tailored to customer needs.

AR 725-50 outlines specific details of LIF use.

SECTION II – OTHER SUPPLY SOURCES

5-38. Section II discusses alternative sources of repair parts supply.

CANNIBALIZATION

5-39. Cannibalization is the authorized removal of serviceable and unserviceable assemblies and serviceable repair parts from unserviceable, uneconomically repairable, or excess end-items of equipment authorized for local disposal.

ON THE BATTLEFIELD

5-40. When done on the battlefield, cannibalization's final aim is to return as many weapon systems and tactical support systems to the battle as quickly as possible. Cannibalization supplements and supports supply and RX operations by providing assets not available through other sources. On the battlefield, the MMC maintains visibility of all cannibalization-eligible equipment in order to direct these operations.

5-41. Cannibalization operations fall into two general categories:

- Cannibalization point operations conducted by the C&C service company. This provides repair parts and assemblies for immediate use, repair parts and assemblies for stockage, and unserviceable components and assemblies for GS-level repair. Operations are conducted in accordance with DA Pamphlet 710-2-2.
- Battle support cannibalization conducted by maintenance personnel in accordance with established procedures, usually in response to immediate tactical requirements. This is done only for returning equipment to combat, not for repair parts stockage.

BATTLE SUPPORT PROCEDURES

5-42. Battle support cannibalization procedures are based on policy guidance from corps and ASCC. These procedures are designed to support maintenance operations. The goal of battle support cannibalization is to return a maximum number of weapon systems and tactical support systems to units for their immediate tactical requirements. Table 5-3 shows procedures for possible incorporation into a battle support cannibalization policy.

Table 5-3. Battle Support Cannibalization Procedures

Equipment Category	Authority	Action
Abandon/destroy	Corps/division commander	Equipment is destroyed to prevent enemy capture (only when recovery or evacuation is not feasible). The division commander has authority to abandon/destroy equipment but may delegate authority to lower commands. Before destruction, sighting and fire control equipment and other critical items are removed and evacuated. When possible, maintenance personnel conduct cannibalization, then destroy the item.
Obvious Code H (Salvage)	Senior maintenance person	Maintenance personnel remove critical repair parts and assemblies in short supply. Parts from the cannibalized item are used first to conserve parts in the supply system. Following cannibalization, the item is abandoned, destroyed, or recovered/evacuated at low priority.
Reparable at unit level	Tactical unit commander (item meets criteria set by division commander)	Controlled exchange should be used to the maximum extent possible. When cannibalization of unit-level parts contributes to increasing the number of weapon systems available for the immediate tactical requirement, organizational maintenance personnel request cannibalization authorization from the tactical commander concerned.
Reparable at FSB (BSA)	Tactical unit commander (item meets criteria set by division commander)	Controlled exchange should be used to the maximum extent possible. When cannibalization of DS-level maintenance parts contributes to increasing the number of weapon systems for the immediate tactical requirement, DS-level maintenance personnel request authorization from the tactical commander concerned. The cannibalized item is repaired at the earliest opportunity.
Reparable at MSB (DSA)	Maintenance control officer	Controlled exchange should be used to the maximum extent possible. Cannibalization decisions in the DSA are coordinated by the maintenance control officer with the division WSRO. Only parts needed for immediate requirements should be removed. The cannibalized item is repaired at the earliest opportunity.
Reparable at general support	Maintenance control officer	Controlled exchange should be used to the maximum extent possible. Cannibalization decisions should be coordinated with the supporting GS maintenance unit. Only parts needed for immediate requirements should be removed. Following cannibalization, equipment is evacuated to GS-level maintenance.

WARTIME POLICY

5-43. During war and transition to war, the Army service component commander must establish a cannibalization policy. Waivers of NICP disposition requirements must be coordinated with the NICP concerned. Corps and division commanders implement the theater policy. Cannibalization point operations remain the same as during peace. When items have been authorized for disposal, maintenance personnel remove parts and components. Serviceable items are made available for issue. Unserviceable repairable items are work-ordered for repair.

5-44. After selected recoverable items are removed, the cannibalization point makes the end-item available for further supply action. Lists of end-items available for cannibalization are periodically provided to supported customers. Customers bring requisitions to the cannibalization point where issue is made on a fill-or-kill basis.

PEACETIME POLICY

5-45. Peacetime policy guidance is contained in AR 710-2, AR 750-1, and DA Pamphlet 710-2-2, which deal with cannibalization point operations. NICP approval is required before weapon systems may be cannibalized. CONUS cannibalization points are normally set up at installations with fixed maintenance facilities.

UNAUTHORIZED CANNIBALIZATION

5-46. Unauthorized cannibalization during peacetime operations degrades readiness. Commanders and maintenance leaders should avoid this practice and correct all violations. Leaders should also ensure that cannibalization is not performed under the guise of controlled exchange. This happens when unserviceable components are not replaced on, or affixed to, the donor end-item.

FABRICATION

5-47. When a critical part is not available through the supply system, it may sometimes be fabricated locally by direct support maintenance units. A DA Form 2407 is annotated with specifications, and a sample item, if available, is provided.

CONTROLLED EXCHANGE

5-48. Controlled exchange is the removal of serviceable parts, components, assemblies, and subassemblies from unserviceable, economically repairable equipment for immediate use in restoring a like item of equipment to a combat mission-capable condition. Controlled exchange—

- Expedites repair and return to user in support of materiel readiness or operational effectiveness.
- Is performed by using units and support maintenance organizations.

Controlled exchange ensures that unserviceable yet repairable components are recovered and repaired.

5-49. During combat or transition to war, major Army commanders may modify the conditions in which controlled exchange is performed. Controlled exchange and cannibalization will not apply to end-items that have been involved in accidents until they have been formally released by the investigating officer. The document register, due-in records, and records of demands must be adjusted when controlled exchange is used. Specific procedures for controlled exchange should be in the unit maintenance SOP. Circumstances under which controlled exchange is authorized are outlined in AR 750-1.

LOCAL PURCHASE

5-50. Local purchase is a source of supply that may be used to procure items required to satisfy immediate needs. The supporting SSA accountable officer is the approving authority for local purchase. The servicing finance unit supplies funds for local purchase either directly or through a Class A agent or imprest fund cashier. The advent of unit credit cards has facilitated local purchase of repair parts; however, caution must be used in their application. Procedures and conditions that must exist are contained in AR 710-2.

